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COMMUNICATION OF 3 JUNE 1998 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Attached is a communication received from the Permanent Mission of New Zealand, forwarding statements by the Prime Minister of New Zealand, for the information of Member States.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number.

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NEW ZEALAND MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TE AKA AORERE

VIENNA

3 June 1998 2/27

Mr Muttusamy Sanmuganathan
Secretary
Policy Making Organs
IAEA

Dear Mr Sanmuganathan

I have been instructed to request you to have the attached four statements issued by the New Zealand Prime Minister on the nuclear tests by India and Pakistan circulated as information documents.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

J C Mosley
Permanent Representative

Encl

MATTIELLISTRASSE 2-4/4 A-1040 VIENNA AUSTRIA
TELEPHONE (0043-1) 505-3021 FACSIMILE (0043-1) 505-3020

NEW ZEALAND MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TE AKA AORERE

VIENNA

NEW ZEALAND CONDEMNS INDIAN NUCLEAR TESTS

"The Government is gravely concerned at the testing of three nuclear devices by India," the Prime Minister Hon Jenny Shipley said today.

"We condemn these tests, just as we have condemned all nuclear testing in the past."

"We had hoped nuclear testing had ended for all time, with the recent conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). That hope has now been shattered."

"Despite its decision not to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty India has always professed its commitment to nuclear disarmament. It is extremely disappointing that they have failed to live up to these ideals."

"I hope other countries in the region will remain calm in response to these events. It is imperative that there should be no further steps which might weaken the international norm against testing."

"We will be making clear to the Indian authorities that New Zealand strongly objects to their actions."

"We shall also be consulting with like-minded countries on any other measures that can be taken to register the international community's condemnation of this provocative act by India."

WELLINGTON
12 May, 1998

MATTIELLISTRASSE 4/3 A-1040 VIENNA AUSTRIA
TELEPHONE (0043-1) 505-1921 FACSIMILE (0043-1) 505-1020

NEW ZEALAND MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TE AKA AORERE

VIENNA

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS FURTHER INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

"New Zealand deeply deplores India's action in exploding two further nuclear devices," Prime Minister Jenny Shipley said today.

"The New Zealand Government, Parliament, and people, are united in their condemnation of nuclear testing. This latest action is contemptuous of world opinion."

"We are consulting with likeminded countries about the Indian tests. We shall be taking every opportunity in the United Nations and other relevant multilateral forums to make clear our total rejection of this reckless behaviour."

The Prime Minister noted that New Zealand's Disarmament Ambassador at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva will be making a strong statement condemning India's action when the Conference resumes tonight.

"Once again, I appeal to India's neighbours to continue to exercise restraint in this tense situation."

Mrs Shipley noted that the Indian Government has now said that it does not need to conduct further tests.

"If India wants to start repairing the damage it has caused, it should sign unconditionally the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and accept the commitments contained in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," she said.

WELLINGTON
14 May, 1998

MATTIELLISTRASSE 2-4/1 A-1040 VIENNA AUSTRIA
TELEPHONE (0043-1) 505-4021 FACSIMILE (0043-1) 505-1070

NEW ZEALAND MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TE AKA AORERE

VIENNA

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS NUCLEAR TESTS BY PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Jenny Shipley today condemned Pakistan's nuclear tests.

"New Zealand denounces these tests unequivocally. We knew that Pakistan was under great provocation from the tests already conducted by India, but this response will only aggravate a tense situation."

"In public statements, and in letters sent recently by me and Don McKinnon to our Pakistan counterparts, we called on Pakistan to exercise restraint. I am therefore deeply disappointed that they have now taken this step."

"New Zealand will be making clear to Pakistan, as we did to India, that these actions are totally unacceptable."

"We will also be consulting other Governments about what steps the international community can take to defuse this potentially dangerous situation."

"New Zealand will again be strongly supporting all efforts in the United Nations and other multilateral bodies to try to avert a nuclear arms race in South Asia, and to maintain the international norm against nuclear testing," the Prime Minister concluded.

WELLINGTON
29 May, 1998

MATTIELLISTRASSE 2-4/2, A-1040 VIENNA, AUSTRIA
TELEPHONE (0043-1) 505-4021 FACSIMILE (0043-1) 505-4020

NEW ZEALAND MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TE AKA AORERE

VIENNA

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS FURTHER TESTING BY PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Jenny Shipley said tonight that New Zealand utterly condemns the further nuclear testing carried out by Pakistan.

"This highly irresponsible action will only increase tension in South Asia. It is essential in this dangerous situation that the countries in the region should exercise the greatest restraint and avoid any moves which might lead to further escalation."

"Once again, I strongly urge Pakistan and India to step back from confrontation."

"They should immediately cease testing, give up their efforts to develop nuclear weapons, and unconditionally adhere to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)."

"New Zealand will be consulting other Governments about what steps the international community can take to register its strong concern," Mrs Shipley said.

WELLINGTON
31 May, 1998

MATTIELLISTRASSE 2-4/3 A-1040 VIENNA AUSTRIA
TELEPHONE (0043-1) 505-1071 FACSIMILE (0043-1) 505-1073